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Message Text

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73
ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 CPR-01 SP-02 OIC-02 SY-05

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /056 W
---------- 004310
R 220925Z SEP 76
FM AMEMBASSY DOHA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1840
INFO USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L DOHA 0997

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, QA, US
SUBJ: HIGH LEVEL ATTENDANCE AT 31ST GA--QATARI FOREIGN
MINISTER; SEC VISIT 31ST GA

REF: DOHA 0860

1. ON SEPT 22 GOQ'S CHIEF OF PROTOCOL INQUIRED ON BEHALF OF FOREIGN MINISTER SHAYKH SUHAYM BIN HAMAD AL THANI RE SUHAYM'S REQUEST FOR BILATERAL WITH SECRETARY (REFTEL).

2. WE RESPONDED THAT FOREIGN MINISTER'S REQUEST HAD BEEN FORWARDED TO DEPT, NOTED THAT GA HAD JUST OPENED, REVIEWED DIFFICULTIES OF ARRANGING BILATERAL, POINTED OUT THAT SECRETARY STILL IN AFRICA, AND RECALLED THERE HAD BEEN NO RPT NO COMMITMENT FOR MEETING.

3. WE ASKED PROTOCOL CHIEF FOR FOREIGN MINISTER'S PRECISE ITINERARY, WHICH HE WAS UNABLE TO PROVIDE. HE SAID SUHAYM WOULD LEAVE DOHA "A DAY OR SO" AFTER THE ID AL FITR, CMD WOULD SPEND "SOME TIME" IN EUROPE EN ROUTE TO NEW YORK. ACCORDING PROTOCOL CHIEF, SUHAYM SCHEDULED TO SPEAK BEFORE GA ON OCT 10, AND THIS WAS ONLY FIRM DATE THAT HE HAD. HE SAID MINISTER USUALLY ARRIVED IN NEW YORK A "WEEK OR SO" BEFORE HIS SPEECH, AND REMAINED FOR "A FEW DAYS" THEREAFTER.

4. COMMENT: WE REALIZE THAT THIS IS ALL VERY VAGUE AND WE DON'T
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EXPECT TO OBTAIN ANY MORE PRECISE INFORMATION. THE FOREIGN

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MINISTER AND OTHER SENIOR GOQ OFFICIALS MAKE IT A POINT TO KEEP
THEIR TRAVEL PLANS TO THEMSELVES, AND IN MANY CASES THIS IS
BECAUSE THE AMIR HIMSELF TELLS THEM WHEN TO COME AND GO,
AND VERY OFTEN DOES NOT CONVEY UNTIL LAST MINUTE HIS APPROVAL
OF TRAVEL PLANS. IN ANY CASE, SUHAYM'S REQUEST FOR BILATERAL
WITH SECRETARY AND GUR SUPPORT OF IT STILL STANDQM THERE IS SOME
CHALFE THAT QATARI EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON OR GOQ MISSION IN
NEW YORK MIGHT HAVE FURTHER INFORMATION ON SUHAYM'S ITINERARY,
BUT DON'T COUNT ON IT. WE WILL, OF COURSE, REPORT ANYTHING
FURTHER THAT COMES OUR WAY.
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